Right to Elementary Education as Fundamental Right

426. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the right to elementary education has been enshrined as one of the Fundamental Rights under the Indian constitution;

(b) if so, whether Government have enacted any enabling legislation to make the right enforceable;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the necessary legislation is likely to be presented for Parliamentary approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) The relevant Constituion Amendment Act, has been enacted, but not yet brought into force.

(b) Not yet.

(c) and (d) State Governments, Political Parties and other concerned are being consulted in regard to the legislation envisaged in the new Article 21 A of the Constitution. It will be introduced in Parliament as soon as this process is over.

Parliament for children by UNESCO

†427. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:
SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Parliament for children named "Education for All" has been organised in Delhi recently under the literacy drive being launched by the UNESCO;

(b) if so, the details of the main points discussed in the said Parliament;

(c) whether Government have realized NGOs and civil society organizations could play a significant role in child education;

(d) whether it is a fact that the prgrammes launched by NGOs in the field of literacy have been praised; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, the names of the organisations which have done commendable service in this field and details of the success achieved by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) and (b) A so called Parliament for Children was organised by Global Campaign for Education an international non-governmental organisation, during 8-10 November 2003. Its concluding session was attended by Director General, UNESCO, also Main themes reportedly discussed were effect on children of HIV/AIDS, conflict and communal violence, discrimination against minorities, access to and quality of education, rural poverty and costs of education, urban poverty, child labour and girls' education.

(c) Governemnt fully recognises the NGOs and civil society can play a significant role in education of children.

(d) and (e) The following three Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) were awarded by the National Literacy Mission on the occasion of International Literacy Day, 2003, for achieving over 90% success in promoting Female Literacy under the Accelerated Female Literacy Project (AFLP) in Uttar Pradesh:

1. Chetna Seva Sansthan, District Rampur, Uttar Pradesh

2. Ashadeep Gramodyog Sewa Sansthan, Rampur, Uttar Pradesh

3. Anam Mahila Kalyan Samiti, District Rampur, Uttar Pradesh.

Improvement of Science Education in Schools

428. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central scheme called the Improvement of Science Education in Schools is under implementation to improve quality of science education and promote scientific temper in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) what is the present status of the implementation of the scheme in the Southern States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Centrally sponsored scheme of